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SAVANNAH RIVER SITE EMPLOYEES HELP COMMUNITY HUNGER WITH HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

AIKEN, S.C., December 23, 2003 -- Savannah River Site employees recently donated the equivalent of **164,564 pounds** of food to the Golden Harvest Food Bank during their annual holiday food drive.

Of the total amount collected this year, approximately 3,900 pounds consisted of food and \$26,793 was in cash.

Cash donations made by SRS employees will purchase about 160,758 pounds of food supplies. One dollar converts to six pounds of food for the Golden Harvest Food Bank.

Last year SRS employees collected a total of 81,115 pounds of food (\$16,213 in cash and 5,500 pounds of food) with a cash conversion rate of 4.65 pounds per dollar collected.

(more)

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“We are happy to receive this size donation, especially in time for the holidays. SRS has a strong history of supporting Golden Harvest Food Bank, and this food is especially critical in the coming winter months when times are so hard for the elderly and the poor,” says Golden Harvest Executive Director Mike Firmin.

This year’s Food Drive ran Dec.1-12. Again this year, the WSRC Community Giving Program provided \$2,000 to Golden Harvest Food Bank for the purchase of holiday turkeys and hams.

Golden Harvest Food Bank is a private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to fight hunger by feeding adults and children. Serving 24 counties in Georgia and South Carolina, the food bank has local warehouses in Augusta and Aiken.

NOTE TO EDITORS: Photos of the donated food and check presentation are available upon request.

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